

In the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for generating revenue in a peer-to-peer file delivery network, the peer-to-peer file delivery network including at least one server node and multiple client nodes, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) enabling peer-to-peer file sharing of content by,

(i) initiating on one client node a download of a particular content item served from the server node or another client node, and

(ii) charging a fee based on a quantity of content served related to the particular content item; and

(b) enabling decentralized downloads of subscription-based content by

(i) allowing client nodes of the multiple client nodes to subscribe to the subscription-based content,

(ii) periodically sending the subscription-based content to each respective subscribing client node, and

(iii) charging a fee to providers of the subscription-based content for serving the subscription-based content.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further including the step of:

(c) providing direct marketing by

(i) sending marketing content to the client nodes from the server node as well as from other client nodes, and

(ii) charging a fee to providers of the marketing content.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further including the step of:

(d) enabling client nodes to become affiliate servers that deliver content to other client nodes, and paying owners of the affiliate servers a percentage of the fee charged for serving files.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes free content and fee-based content, step (a)(ii) further including the steps of:

(1) charging a fee to a provider of the free content for serving the free content, and

(2) charging a fee to a user of the initiating client node for the download of the fee-based content.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein the subscription-based content includes free content and fee-based content, step (b)(iii) further including the step of:

(1) charging a fee to users of the subscribing client nodes for receiving the fee-based content.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein the subscription-based content includes free content and fee-based content, step (b)(iii) further including the step of charging a fee to users of the subscribing client nodes for opening the fee-based content.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein step (c)(ii) further includes the step of: charging a fee to the provider of the marketing content based on a cost per click.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein step (c)(ii) further includes the step of: charging a fee to the provider of the marketing content based on a cost per acquisition.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for generating revenue in a peer-to-peer file delivery network, the peer-to-peer file delivery network including at least one server node and multiple client nodes, the system comprising:

a node configured to enable ~~means for enabling~~ peer-to-peer file sharing of content whereby one client node initiates a download of a particular content item served from the server node or another client node, and wherein a fee is charged based on a quantity of content served related to the particular content item; and

a node configured to enable ~~means for enabling~~ decentralized downloads of subscription-based content that client nodes of the multiple client nodes subscribe to in order to receive periodic updates, wherein a fee is charged to providers of subscription-based content for serving the subscription-based content to the client nodes.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9 further including a node configured to provide means for providing direct marketing to client nodes such that marketing content is sent to the client nodes from the server node as well as from other client nodes, and a fee is charged to providers of the marketing content.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9 further including a node configured to enable means for enabling client nodes to become affiliate servers that deliver content to other client nodes, such that owners of the affiliate servers are paid a percentage of the fee charged for serving files.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein the content includes free content and fee-based content, and a provider of the free content is charged a fee for serving the free content, and a user of the initiating client node is charged a fee for download of the fee-based content.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein the subscription-based content includes second free content and second fee-based content, and wherein users of subscribing client nodes are charged a fee for receiving the second fee-based content.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein the subscription-based content includes second free content and second fee-based content, and wherein users of the subscribing client nodes are charged a fee for opening the second fee-based content.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10 further comprising means for charging a fee from a provider of the marketing content based on a cost per click.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15 further comprising means for charging a fee from the provider of the marketing content based on a cost per acquisition.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium containing program instructions for generating revenue in a peer-to-peer file delivery network, the peer-to-peer file delivery

network including at least one server node and multiple client nodes, the program instructions for:

- (a) enabling peer-to-peer file sharing of content by,
 - (i) initiating on one client node a download of a particular content item served from the server node or another client node, and
 - (ii) charging a fee based on a quantity of content served related to the particular content item; and
- (b) enabling decentralized downloads of subscription-based content by
 - (i) allowing client nodes of the multiple client nodes to subscribe to subscription-based content,
 - (ii) periodically sending the subscription-based content to each respective subscribing client node, and
 - (iii) charging a fee to providers of the subscription-based content for serving the subscription-based content.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17 further including the instruction of:

- (c) providing direct marketing by
 - (i) sending marketing content to the client nodes from the server node as well as from other client nodes, and
 - (ii) charging a fee to providers of the marketing content.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17 further including the instruction of:

- (d) enabling client nodes to become affiliate servers that deliver content to other client nodes, and paying owners of the affiliate servers a percentage of the fee charged for serving files.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17 wherein the content includes free content and fee-based content, instruction (a)(ii) further including the instructions of:

- (1) charging a fee to a provider of the free content for serving the free content, and

(2) charging a fee to a user of an initiating client node for download of the fee-based content.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the subscription-based content includes second free content and second fee-based content, instruction (b)(iii) further including the instruction of:

(1) charging a fee to users of the respective subscribing client node for receiving the second fee-based content.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the subscription-based content includes second free content and second fee-based content, instruction (b)(iii) further including the instruction of charging a fee to users of the respective subscribing client nodes for opening the second fee-based content.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 18 wherein instruction (c)(ii) further includes the instruction of:

charging a fee to the providers of the marketing content based on a cost per click.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein instruction (c)(ii) further includes the instruction of:

charging a fee to the providers of the marketing content based on a cost per acquisition.

25. (Previously Presented) A method for providing subscription-based decentralized file downloads to client nodes in a peer-to-peer public network, each of the client nodes affiliated with a user account, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving content files from at least one content provider, the content including free subscription content files, fee-based subscription content files, and marketing content files;

(b) allowing the client nodes to subscribe to particular content files;

(c) periodically delivering the particular content files to respective clients nodes that subscribed to the particular content files;

(d) charging the at least one content provider a fee for delivering the content files to the client nodes over the peer-to-peer public network;

(e) charging the at least one content provider a fee for the marketing content files based on a number of users that access the marketing content files once downloaded; and

(f) charging user accounts of the client nodes that received fee-based subscription content files.

26. (Previously Presented) A method for generating revenue in a peer-to-peer file delivery network, the network including at least one server node and multiple client nodes, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) enabling peer-to-peer file sharing of content by,

(i) initiating on one client node a download of a particular content item served from the at least one server node or another client node, and

(ii) charging a fee based on a quantity of content served related to the particular content item;

(b) enabling decentralized downloads of subscription-based content by

(i) allowing client nodes of the multiple client nodes to subscribe to the subscription-based content,

(ii) periodically sending the subscription-based content to each respective subscribing client node, and

(iii) charging a fee to providers of the subscription-based content for serving the subscription-based content;

(c) providing direct marketing by

(i) sending marketing content to the client nodes from the at least one server node as well as from other client nodes, and

(ii) charging a fee to providers of the marketing content; and

(d) enabling client nodes to become affiliate servers that deliver content to other client nodes, and paying owners of the affiliate servers a percentage of the fee charged for serving files.

27. (Currently Amended) A system for generating revenue in a peer-to-peer file delivery network, the peer-to-peer file delivery network including at least one server node and multiple client nodes, the system comprising:

a node configured to enable ~~means for enabling~~ peer-to-peer file sharing of content whereby one client node initiates a download of a particular content item served from the at least one server node or another client node, and wherein a fee is charged based on a quantity of content served related to the particular content item;

a node configured to enable ~~means for enabling~~ decentralized downloads of subscription-based content that client nodes of the multiple client nodes subscribe to in order to receive periodic updates, wherein a fee is charged to providers of the subscription-based content for serving the subscription-based content to the client nodes;

a node configured to provide ~~means for providing~~ direct marketing to the client nodes such that marketing content is sent to the client nodes from the at least one server node as well as from other client nodes, and a fee is charged to providers of the marketing content; and

a node configured to enable ~~means for enabling~~ client nodes to become affiliate servers that deliver content to other client nodes, such that owners of the affiliate servers are paid a percentage of the fee charged for serving files.

28. (Currently Amended) A system for generating revenue in a peer-to-peer file delivery network, comprising:

a server node adapted to:

allow a download by a client node, wherein a fee is charged based on a quantity of content served during the download; [[and]]

enable downloads of subscription-based content by client nodes, wherein a second fee is charged to providers of the subscription-based content for serving the subscription based content to the client nodes; and

periodically send the subscription-based content to the client nodes.

29. (Currently Amended) A server node comprising:

a network interface; and

a control system adapted to:

share content with a client node and charge a fee based on a quantity of content shared with the client node;

provide subscription-based content to which the client node may subscribe, wherein a fee is charged to providers of the subscription-based content for providing the subscription-based content to the client node; [[and]]

periodically send the subscription-based content to the client nodes; and

provide direct marketing to the client node such that marketing content is provided to the client node and a fee is charged to providers of the marketing content; and wherein the client node may become an affiliate server that delivers content to other client nodes such that an owner of the affiliate server is paid a percentage of a fee charged for content delivery.